

## Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 PM-07

INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

USIA-15 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 DODE-00 H-03 NSC-07 SS-20

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TAGS: PFOR MARR IC NATO

SUBJECT: IDF RETENTION ISSUE: FONMIN TV INTERVIEW APRIL 16

REF: REYKJAVIK 0538, 0542

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF SHORT TV INTERVIEW WITH FONMIN EINAR  
AGUSTSSON ON APRIL 16 RE BASE NEGOTIATIONS IN WASHINGTON:

QUOTE:

Q. HAS THE GOVERNMENT DISCUSSED DEFENSE AFFAIRS SINCE YOU  
CAME BACK FROM THE STATES?

A. NO, BUT I HAVE BEEN WOGKING ON A REPORT WHICH WILL BE PUT  
BEFORE THE GOVERNMENT AND THE ALTHING COMMITTEE FOR FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS TOMORROW.

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Q. HOW DID SECRETARY OF STATE DR. KISSINGER REACT TO YOUR

PROPOSALS?

A. HE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE KEFLAVIK BASE BUT HE ALSO MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE UNDERSTOOD OUR POSITION AND ASSURED ME THAT HE WOULD PERSONALLY MAKE EVERY POSSIBLE EFFORT TO FIND A SOLUTION.

Q. WHAT DID THE AMERICAN NEGOTIATORS HAVE TO SAY ABOUT THE PROPOSALS?

A. THE PROPOSALS WERE NOT DISCUSSED IN DETAIL. THEY WILL TAKE TIME TO LOOK INTO THEM TO SEE WHICH OF OUR POINTS AGREE WITH THE DEFENSE NEEDS WHICH THEY DEEM NECESSARY.

Q. HOW LONG CAN THIS STUDY TAKE?

A. I HOPE THEY WILL TAKE LESS TIME THAN WE DID BUT OTHERWISE WE HAVE NOT SET UP ANY TIME LIMITS OR DEADLINES. I THINK IT IS NORMAL THAT THEY WILL NEED SOME TIME.

Q. WILL THE CONCLUSION OF THESE TALKS BE PUT BEFORE THIS SESSION OF THE ALTHING?

A. THAT WOULD IN MY OPINION BE THE MOST SATISFACTORY SOLUTION BUT THERE IS NO ABSOLUTE GUARANTEE THAT THIS WILL BE POSSIBLE.

Q. WOULD NOT IT HAVE TO BE CLEAR BEFORE THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN IN DEFENSE AFFAIRS?

A. I DON'T REGARD DEFENSE AFFAIRS AS A MATTER FOR THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS. HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE MOST DESIRABLE IF THE AMERICANS WERE QUICK ENOUGH TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR THIS SESSION OF THE ALTHING TO HANDLE THIS MATTER.

Q. IT HAS BEEN ASSERTED IN ANTI-OCCUPATION CIRCLES THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS DELIBERATELY TRYING TO DELAY THIS MATTER UNTIL THE ALTHING HAS BEEN SENT HOME?

A. THERE IS NO TRUTH WHATSOEVER IN THIS ALLEGATION. THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT TRYING TO DELAY DEFENSE AFFAIRS OR KEEP THEM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FROM THE ALTHING.

Q. WHEN WILL THE LIMITATIONS ON THE TRANSMISSION OF THE KEFLAVIK T.V. BE EFFECTIVE?

A. I HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT NEW EQUIPMENT IS NEEDED WHICH WILL SEND A WEAKER SIGNAL THUS LIMITING IT TO THE BASE. IT WILL TAKE SOME TIME TO INSTALL THIS EQUIPMENT BUT NOT VERY LONG.

Q. DOES THIS MEAN 2 MONTHS OR 3 MONTHS OR PERHAPS HALF A YEAR?

A. NOT HALF A YEAR, 2 OR 3 MONTHS RATHER.

END QUOTE

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2. COMMENT: AS USUAL AGUSTSSON TAILOGED HIS STATEMENTS TO HIS AUDIENCE. IN SPEAKING OF BASE TV, HE TALKED OF "LIMITING IT TO THE BASE," RATHER THAN "ELIMINATION OF THE SIGNAL FROM THE REYKJAVIK AREA" AS AGREED IN WASHINGTON. SINCE FORMER WAS DEMAND FROM PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE, IMPLEMENTATION OF LATTER COULD CREATE PROBLEMS FOR US. OBVIOUSLY, HIS STATEMENT THAT SUBMISSION OF OUTCOME OF NEGOTIATIONS TO PRESENT SESSION OF THE ALTHING WOULD BE MOST "SATISFACTORY SOLUTION," DOES NOT REPRESENT VIEWS OF GOI.

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MARTIN

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## Message Attributes

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